



SUSTAINABILITY
DIVISION

LIVING SUSTAINABLY

Quarterly Newsletter



COUNTY of VENTURA

OCTOBER IS ENERGY AWARENESS MONTH



October means football season, all things pumpkin, Halloween costumes, and many other fun seasonal changes. While we're excited for autumn, here at the County of Ventura's Sustainability Division, we're welcoming this new month for another reason...energy!

October is **National Energy Awareness Month**, declared as such in 1991 by President Bush to encourage government and organizations to raise awareness of the importance of sustainably managing the nation's energy resources. Today, we continue the effort, not only looking to government and organizations to take action, but recognizing that as individuals, we too have the power (no pun intended) and responsibility to manage our energy usage more efficiently.

In this issue of **LIVING SUSTAINABLY**, we hope you find some tricks and treats to help you in your efforts to improved energy efficiency!

There's a day for that!



October 6
ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY

Happy October!

*The latest in
this month's issue:*

**YOUR ELECTRIC BILL
CAN BE SCARY - 2**

**MEET SOME FOLKS FROM
THE TEAM - 3**

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BEEN CERTIFIED - 4**

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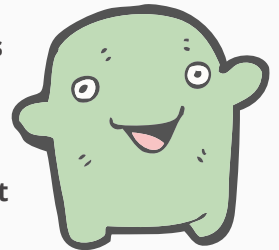
**WHAT YOU MAY HAVE
MISSED - 6**

ACCORDING TO LEGEND, HALLOWEEN IS THE NIGHT WHEN THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE WORLDS OF THE LIVING AND THE DEAD BECAME BLURRED, ALLOWING GHOSTS AND DEMONS TO RUN FREE. WHETHER YOU'RE SCARED OF EVIL SPIRITS OR NOT, THERE'S NO QUESTION THAT ENERGY BILLS CAN BE TRULY FRIGHTENING. LUCKILY, THERE ARE WAYS TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

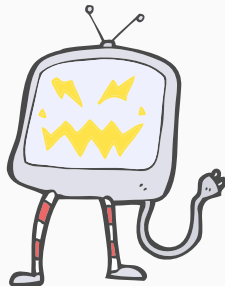


Sunlight is not only harmful to vampires but can also be when trying to keep your home cool. Try closing curtains and blinds.

Banish creatures lurking in the darkness with outdoor solar lighting to keep the path for trick or treaters well-lit without adding extra cost to your electricity bill.



Avoid phantom loads that waste energy by using a surge protector to easily switch off the power to appliances when not in use.



Did someone say witches? No, switches...install dimmer switches so you only use as much light as you need.



Eliminate air leaks in your home - and keep ghosts from flying in - by air sealing your home, cutting heating and cooling cost by an average of 15%.

Don't be afraid of the dark anymore... replace your old light bulbs with LEDs .



For more energy efficient treats, click [here](#)



Erica Helson

MEET SOME OF THE TEAM



Itzel Torres

My role is dedicated to the Tri-County Regional Energy Network (3C-REN). The 3C-REN programs are focused on energy efficiency, helping households save energy and money and helping building professionals save energy through the latest green building technologies and techniques.

To learn how many programs the County runs, from energy programs to housing and other social services, there are great resources in place to help our community.

Americorps with the American Red Cross teaching disaster preparedness, including doing puppet shows for toddlers to teach them 'drop, cover, hold' during an earthquake.

Enjoying my hometown of Ojai with family.

All-electric buildings, the technology has improved since the 1950s.

Health concerns aside, a pastry, preferably a cheese Danish.

What do you do in the Sustainability Division?

What is one thing that surprised you about working here at the County?

What was your first job?

What would we find you doing on the weekends?

What trend do you hope makes a comeback?

If you could eat one thing for every meal for the rest of your life, what would it be?

I recently transitioned into my new role as a Sustainability Program Administrator after serving as a CivicSpark Fellow under the Sustainability Division. Most of my time is dedicated to supporting our 3C-REN programs.

I was surprised how interconnected a lot of our sustainability initiatives were to other initiatives other departments have going on. It's relieving to see that there is consensus as a County that climate action goals matter.

I worked as a Gallery Attendant for the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive. Which consisted of lots of tours but mostly telling people not to touch things!

I recently got back into photography, so mostly going out with friends and sightseeing, eating good food, and taking pictures of the places we visit! I am also training for a half marathon in New York in December. I'm running at a speed people walking can probably surpass me. It is not going too well!

Faux Leather Coats. It's always been a dream of mine to be able to channel Neo (Keanu Reeves) from the Matrix!

French fries, French fries, French fries!



SAVE MONEY.
BE A GREEN LEADER.

Check Out Who is Certified!

Camarillo Clean Co.
camcleanco@gmail.com
<https://camarillocleanco.com>



Body Essential of Ojai
kelliloughman@yahoo.com
<http://bodyessentialsojai.com>

Lisa Madison
Real Property Management Limitless
Thousand Oaks
lisa@rpmlimitless.com



Learn More About
Becoming Certified



UPCOMING EVENTS

DIY Home Energy Savings

(Virtual Event)

October 7 @ 6:00pm -6.40pm

Join this virtual event to learn more about DIY Home Energy Savings Toolkit, ask questions and learn more about general home performance principles.

[Find out more](#)

Home Remodeling Fire Resiliency & Electrification

Join this on demand class to learn about electrification options along with upgrade opportunities that improve comfort while also reducing your home's climate impacts and wildfire risks.

[Find out more](#)

CHANGE IS IN THE AIR, THE WEATHER THAT IS

A FEW IDEAS FOR HEATING AND COOLING



HVAC maintenance tips for energy efficiency

[Learn More](#)

If you need to replace your heater or air conditioner, consider a combined heat pump system.

[Learn More](#)

ABOUT TECH

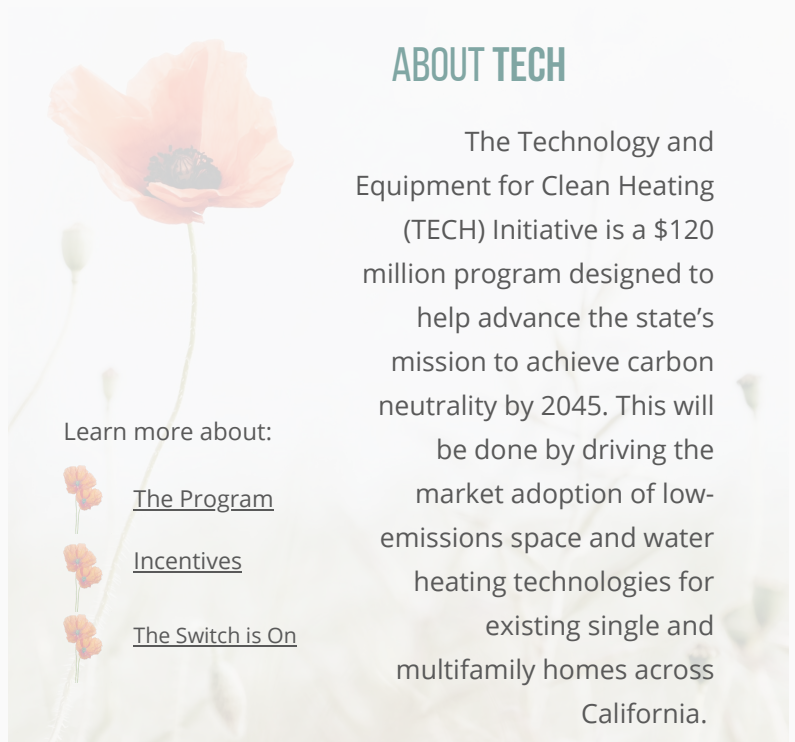
The Technology and Equipment for Clean Heating (TECH) Initiative is a \$120 million program designed to help advance the state's mission to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. This will be done by driving the market adoption of low-emissions space and water heating technologies for existing single and multifamily homes across California.

Learn more about:

[The Program](#)

[Incentives](#)

[The Switch is On](#)





WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

NATIONAL DRIVE ELECTRIC WEEK

September 25- October 3, 2021



Check out all that was done to raise awareness of electric vehicles during

NATIONAL DRIVE ELECTRIC WEEK

including our very own EV Showcase and Ride & Drive event at the Channel Islands Harbor, other regional ride and drive events, webinars, and movie night.



[MORE INFO](#)

CLEAN AIR DAY

October 6, 2021



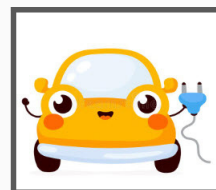
Just to clear the air, we can all do our part to improve air quality and protect public health.



Adopt a tree!

Event partners are providing free trees to youth, families and neighbors in the Nyeland Acres community.

Partnering with local teachers to develop fun EV-related activities including a Evie McWheelie Coloring Contest.



[LEARN MORE](#)

THE NEW EV COACH



Meet Kent Bullard, the new EV Technical Coach for Ventura County. Since the turn of the century, Kent has actively implemented sustainable practices, advocating locally for EVs, clean air, solar, and renewables. Kent is working closely with County of Ventura and our ten cities, local businesses, and members of the public regarding EV-related issues.

Questions??
e-mail
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